

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 STATE 083993
ORIGIN EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /013 R

DRAFTED BY EUR/WE:EMROWELL/REBARBOUR:MS
APPROVED BY EUR-ROBERT E. BARBOUR
-----073763 011350Z /17
R 010249Z APR 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY VALLETTA

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 083993

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: OVIP, US, MT

SUBJECT: PROPOSED FELICE VISIT TO WASHINGTON

FOR THE AMBASSADOR

1. AS YOU WILL SEE FROM SEPTTEL, WE WILL OF COURSE RECEIVE FELICE IF HE COMES TO WASHINGTON, BUT WE WANT TO BE CERTAIN THAT HE COMES WITH NO UNREALISTIC EXPECTATIONS OR GOALS.
2. IT OCCURS TO US THAT HE MAY WISH TO BROACH THE SUBJECT OF A POSSIBLE MINTOFF VISIT TO WASHINGTON, PERHAPS IN CONNECTION WITH THE SSOD. WHICH BEGINS MAY 25 AT NEW YORK. ANY SUCH NOTION SHOULD BE DISCOURAGED.
3. AS IS ALSO CLEAR, WE ARE NOT RPT NOT NOW PREPARED TO DISCUSS U.S. GOVERNMENT ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE TO MALTA. IF FELICE RAISES THIS POSSIBILITY, WE WILL HAVE TO TELL HIM THAT WE REGARD ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE AS THE PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITY OF MALTA'S EUROPEAN NEIGHBORS.

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4. IN DISCOURAGING MALTESE EXPECTATIONS OVER PAST FEW YEARS, WE HAVE BEEN CAREFUL TO AVOID CATEGORICAL STATEMENTS THAT SEEMED TO CLOSE THE DOOR COMPLETELY TO THE POSSIBILITY OF OUR DOING SOMETHING TO HELP MALTA SOMEDAY, IF NECESSARY. BUT WHATEVER WE DID WOULD STILL BE SECONDARY TO AND SUPPORTIVE OF WHAT THE EUROPEANS

DO. OUR SUCCESS SO FAR IN NOT PERMITTING OURSELVES TO BE INVOLVED IN THEIR NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE GOM HAS SERVED US WELL. IT HAS LED MINTOFF TO DIRECT HIS ENERGIES TOWARD THE EUROPEANS AND AWAY FROM US (WHILE, PERHAPS PARADOXICALLY, INSTILLING GREATER TRANQUILITY IN OUR OWN RELATIONS WITH HIM), IT HAS FORCED THE EUROPEANS TO REALIZE THAT WE SHALL NOT REMOVE THEIR PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITY FOR MALTA FROM THEIR SHOULDERS, AND IT HAS DENIED MINTOFF A CHANCE TO PLAY US OFF AGAINST THEM. FOR US TO CHANGE OUR POLICY IN PRESENT FAVORABLE CIRCUMSTANCES AS MAY BE MINTOFF'S PURPOSE IN SENDING FELICE HERE, WOULD DO A GREAT DISSERVICE TO OUR OWN INTERESTS. OUR POSITION IN TALKING WITH HIM IF HE COMES, WILL THEREFORE BE GOVERNED BY THE FOREGOING CONSIDERATIONS.

5. WE REALIZE OUR SEEMING DEAFNESS SOMETIMES PUTS YOU IN AN UNCOMFORTABLE POSITION AND WE NOTE WITH GRATIFICATION YOUR STEADFAST SUCCESS IN CONVINCING BOTH THE GOM AND YOUR EUROPEAN COLLEAGUES OF THE SERIOUSNESS OF OUR POSITION.

6. YOU HAVE FULL DISCRETIONARY AUTHORITY TO BRIEF THEM ON FELICE PROJECT, IF YOU WISH. COOPER

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ORIGIN EUR-04

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /005 R

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DRAFTED BY: S/S-O: TGMARTIN

APPROVED BY: S/S1-O: TGMARTIN

-----067260 100206Z /64

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USNMR SHAPE BRUSSELS

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 083993

FOLLOWING REPEAT STATE 083993 ACTION VALLETTA APRIL 1.

QUOTE: C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 083993

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ON FELICE PROJECT, IF YOU WISH. COOPER UNQUOTE VANCE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 01 apr 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
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Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t197804103/aaaadjog.tel
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Litigation History:
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Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
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Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
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Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2825171
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PROPOSED FELICE VISIT TO WASHINGTON FOR THE AMBASSADOR
TAGS: OVIP, US, MT, (FELICE, MARIO)
To: VALLETTA
Type: TE
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Review Markings:
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